Highly Scalable Software-Based Architecture For Communication And

Cooperation Among Distributed Electronic Agents

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

10   **Cross-Reference To Related Applications**

This is a Continuation application of co-pending U.S. Patent

Application No. 09/225,198 (Attorney Docket No. SRI1P016/BRC), filed

NOW ALLOWED
January 5, 1999, which co-pending application is incorporated herein by

15   reference in its entirety

Field of the Invention

The present invention is related to distributed computing

environments and the completion of tasks within such environments. In

20   particular, the present invention teaches a variety of software-based

architectures for communication and cooperation among distributed

electronic agents. Certain embodiments teach interagent communication

languages enabling client agents to make requests in the form of

arbitrarily complex goal expressions that are solved through facilitation

25   by a facilitator agent.

Context and Motivation for Distributed Software Systems

The evolution of models for the design and construction of

distributed software systems is being driven forward by several closely